



"DOWLING, Gregan"

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To Consultation/DTF@DTF
cc
bcc
Subject fire service reform

To the Fire Service Reform Select Committee

I have been a firefighter with the MFB for 14 years. I am a Leading Firefighter , with qualifications that include being an operator of the Teleboom and Heavy Rescue.

I live in Keilor East , and have predominantly worked in the Western zone. This is a highly urbanised area which I have turned out to many and varied calls.

From my experience, the time from when a call is made to 000, until the appropriate service arrives with adequate personal and equipment is critical to minimising loss of life, property and reducing injury .

I believe the best response starts with a full time service that is strategically placed , ready to respond from there stations with appropriate equipment and highly trained operators.

The current MFB model provides this service.

I urge you to consider the proposed Reform . I believe this will provide areas where there has been urban growth to benefit from a combined response from an improved professional service , while still being supported by the Volunteer brigades.

I don't believe the Volunteer brigades will be marginalised. The volunteers are, and always will be, a vital part of emergency response.

Yours faithfully
Gregan Dowling
Leading Firefighter
Keilor Fire Station, #51

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